

Hot Topics in Fire Prevention

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Fire Dues Self-Certification Process Begins Jan. 11th

The 2% Fire Dues Self-Certification Process will run from January 11 – March 31, 2016. This year the goal is to complete the self-certification process by March 15, 2016.

During the time period, both fire chiefs and municipal clerks must complete the self-certification forms on-line through use of the [Wisconsin's Fire Program On-line System](#).

Failure to complete the self-certification form by either the chief or the municipal clerk will result in an on-site audit of the fire department and may lead to the loss of 2% Fire Dues funds.

Each Chief and Clerk should check their user accounts to ensure that there will be no delay in accessing the system once the self-certification forms are available for completion.

When logging into the [Wisconsin's Fire Program On-line System](#), both chiefs and clerks are asked to verify the information displayed and change any information that should be updated.

Several new fields have been added to the fire department information screens. Amongst the new fields are: number of inspections on the Lead

Inspector's page, the NFIRS contact, and the Fire Department organization type on the Fire Department page.

As part of the Annual Fire Department Update, Chiefs are asked to complete their updates by February 1.

Following the successful submittal of all updated fire department information, the annual Deputy Cards and Fire Inspector Identification Cards can be printed directly from the fire dues application.

For login assistance or if you have additional questions regarding the process, please contact us at [DPS IS Fire Dues](#).

New Forms and Templates Available Now in Statewide ImageTrend Software

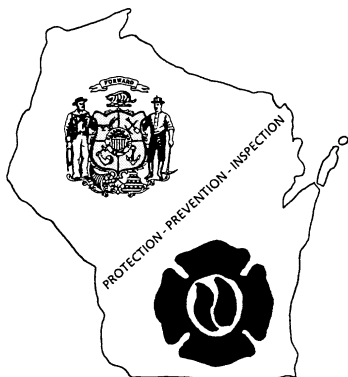
The state purchased [ImageTrend](#) software has had several new additions over the past couple of months.

There are now training and activity templates available to use which match with many of the activities encountered on a routine basis by most fire departments.

All new templates and forms can be accessed by clicking on the appropriate category on the Modules tab (Activities, Checklists, Inspections, and Training).

A new inspection template has been added which corresponds with the new combination inspection report/correction order form found under the Forms

heading on the [Forms and Publications](#) page of the [Fire Prevention](#) web pages.



Over 20 training topics available from the Public Sector Safety staff.

Training Available

Fire Prevention Coordinators are available to provide training on a variety of topics including inspector training, code training, and NFIRS.

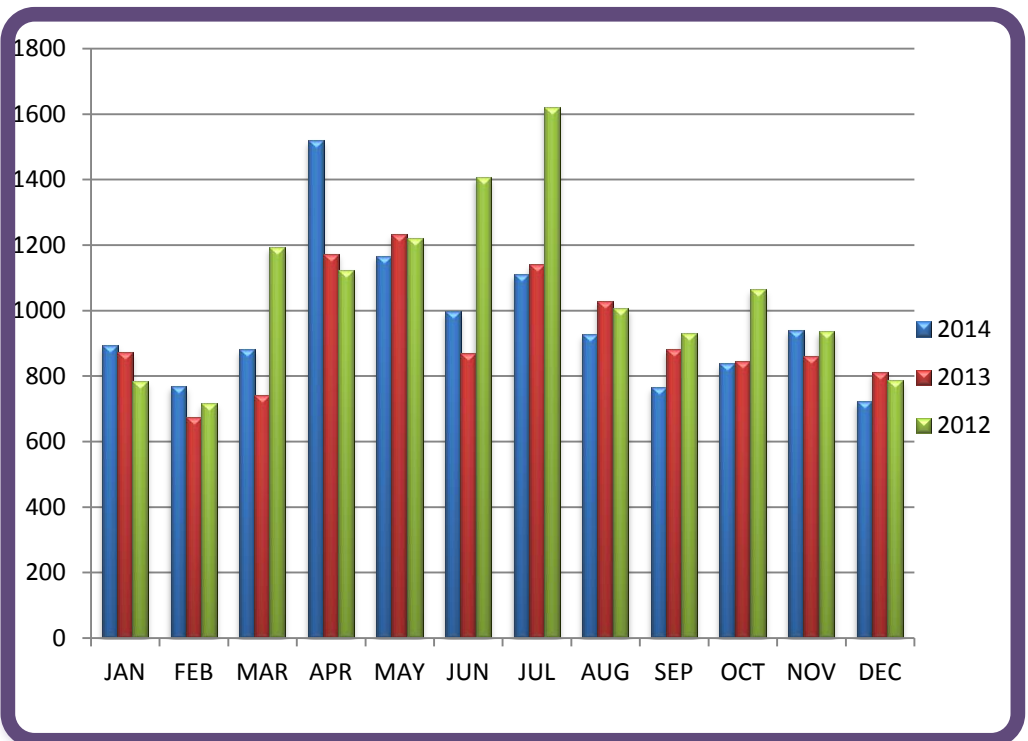
Did you know the Public Sector Safety program staff are also available to provide code awareness training or materials on the following topics? To request training, please contact us at [DSPS IS Health and Safety](#).

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| • Safety and Health (SPS 332.03) | • Respiratory Protection (1910.134) | • Exposure to Traffic (SPS 332.39) |
| • Emergency Procedures/Responses (1910 Subpart E) | • Confined Space Entry (1910.146) | • Storage of Flammable / Combustible Liquids and Materials (1910 Subpart H) |
| • Fire Extinguishers (1910.157) | • Lock Out/Tag Out (1910.147) | • Walking and Working Surfaces & Housekeeping (1910 Subpart D) |
| • Fall Protection (1910 and 1926) | • Bloodborne Pathogens (1910.1030) | • Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (1910.120) |
| • Ladder Training (1926 Subpart X) | • Hazard Communication (1910.1200) | • Medical Services & First Aid (1910.151) |
| • Occupational Noise Exposure (1910.95) | • Machine Guarding (1910 Subpart O) | |
| • Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) (1910 Subpart I) | • Electrical (1910 Subpart S) | |
| | • Excavations (1926 Subpart P) | |

Did You Know:

The Incidents By Time Series report is a NFIRS SORT report available to each department. The Incidents By Time Series summarizes incidents by total number of incidents, fire incidents, EMS incidents, false call incidents, and other incidents. These are grouped using a user-chosen time period including the day of the week, day of the month, the hour of the day, month of the year, quarter of the year, week of the month, or week of the year.

2012 - 2014 Wisconsin Fire Incidents by Month



Aftermarket Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Cylinders Violate OSHA Standards

Recently it has come to our attention that vendors are offering non-manufacturer aftermarket Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) cylinders for sale.

Based upon SPS 332.15, which adopts the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Respiratory Standard, 29 CFR 1910.134, it is our position that the use of these aftermarket SCBA cylinders voids the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) certification, and thus violates the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Respiratory Protection Standard. The basis for our opinion is summarized here and supporting documentation is provided on our [website](#).

NIOSH certifies respirators in conjunction with the Respiratory Protection Standard. As found in section 29 CFR 1910.134(d)(ii), "The employer shall select a NIOSH-certified respirator. The respirator shall be used in compliance with the conditions of its certification." One of the conditions of the NIOSH certification is that the respirator is certified as a complete unit. While the certification documentation uniquely identifies each respirator component, the components are not themselves individually certified.

Currently, when respirator manufacturers submit for NIOSH certification they utilize their brand name components, even if such components are manufactured

by a third party. Thus when purchasing aftermarket components such as air cylinders, the part number identified in the NIOSH certification must be used.

Until such time as NIOSH revises its respirator certification process to include certification of individual components, we will view the use of non-manufacturer aftermarket respirator parts as a violation of the Respiratory Protection Standard. Additional [information and references](#) can be found on our Fire Prevention [Forms and Publications](#) webpage under the Publications section.

Ann Jurkowski, CIH
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Debunking NFIRS Reporting Myths: A Few Invalid Reports is No Big Deal

Many departments are under the impression that the occasional invalid incident report is no *big* deal. Unfortunately, this couldn't be further from the truth. Wisconsin has over 800 fire departments, if each department believes that even one invalid report each month does not hurt anything, we suddenly have 800 invalid incidents within a month's time, 2,400 invalid incidents for the quarter, and 9,600 invalid incidents within a year. Since invalid incidents cannot be released for

inclusion in state and national statistics, we potentially have 9,600 incidents from Wisconsin alone that cannot be used to show trends, justify needed expenditures at the local, state, and national level, justify necessary recalls, or illustrate needed code changes.

As of November 30, Wisconsin fire departments have reported 8,001 invalid incidents for 2015, and there are still 12,383 invalid incidents remaining to be corrected from 2014, 12,536

invalid incidents from 2013, and 6,465 invalid incidents from 2012.

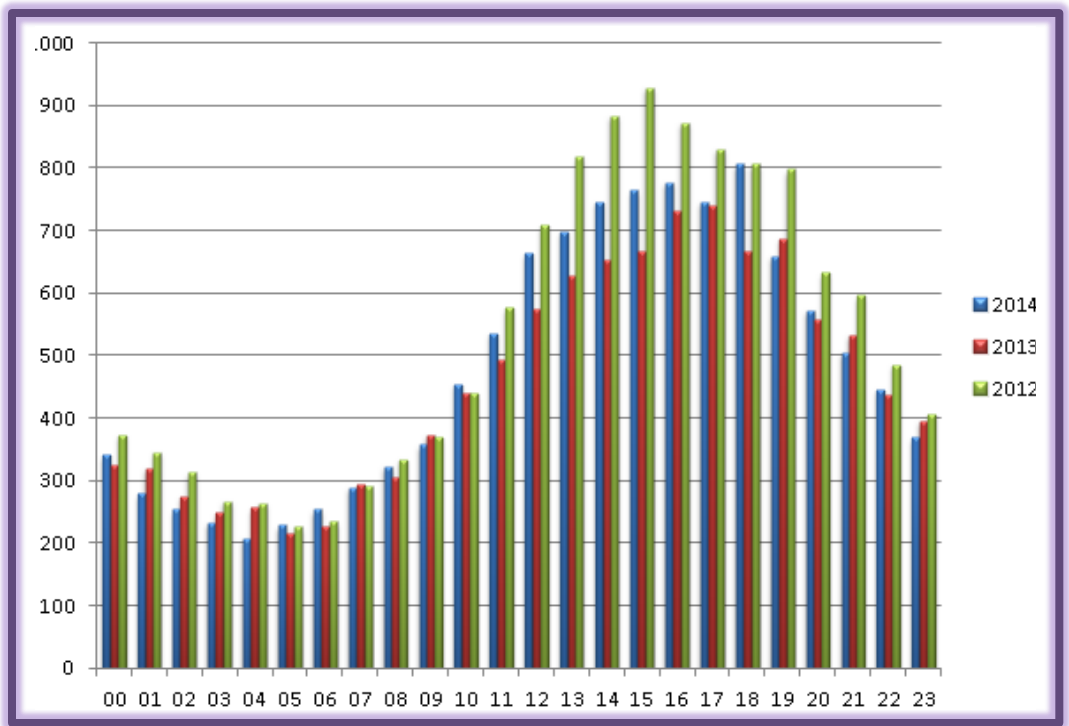
Nationally, the goal is to have Zero invalids in 2015 so we have just over six months to correct 8,001 incidents.

It is never too late to correct an invalid incident. Anytime invalid incidents should be deleted from the system, please contact your [NFIRS Program Manager](#) for help with either the deletion of the incident or in discussing the cause of the invalid status.

A few invalid incident reports is a BIG deal as it effects everyone's ability to use the NFIRS data.

2012 - 2014 Wisconsin Fire Incidents by Hour

Majority of reported fire incidents occur between 1 and 6 p.m.



2015 Wisconsin State Fire Inspectors' Association's Annual Conference Participation



Fire Prevention Staff Mike Fehrenbach and Rick Sommerfeld speaking with Ken Cerney, Blue River

Fire is Everyone's Fight™

Fire Is Everyone's Fight™ is a national initiative created by the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) to unite the fire service, life safety organizations and professionals in an effort to reduce home fire injuries, deaths and property loss by changing how people think about fire and fire prevention.

By joining the Fire Is Everyone's Fight™ your department will have access to numerous public education materials, a community outreach guide, and seasonal announcements and publications that can be used to spread the word about fire safety.

To find out how you or your organization can support Fire Is Everyone's Fight™, please contact Teresa Neal at 301-447-1024 or FEMA-FireIsEveryonesFight@fema.dhs.gov



Seasonal Publications Available

Seasonal Fire Safety Publications have recently been updated on our WI Fire Prevention [Forms and Publications](#) web page.

These publications, such as the [Natural Cut Trees](#), are designed to provide fire inspectors with a quick code reference and draw attention to areas of concern.

USFA also offers seasonal outreach materials that can be used in public education campaigns. From hang tags to infographics, from handouts to postings for Social Media sites, there is something for every size department on the USFA [website](#).



Seasonal NFIRS Statistics

According to the released incidents from 2010 – 2014, there have been four building fires in which the first item ignited was indicated as a Christmas Tree (Fire Module, Section D3 – Item

First Ignited, code 41) and 45 fires in which the first item ignited was a decoration (Fire Module, Section D3 – Item First Ignited, code 42).

During the same time period, 2010 – 2014, there were a total of 244 fires attributed to a candle as the heat source (Fire Module, Section D2 – Heat Source, code 66)

NFIRS Fun Facts*

- ❖ An incident report is added to the NFIRS database every 1.3 seconds.
- ❖ A fire is reported every 28 seconds.
- ❖ More than 23,000 fire departments reported during the year.
- ❖ From the time you started reading these facts, 16 incident reports were added to the database.

*National statistics based on reporting year 2014

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Fighting Fires with Facts

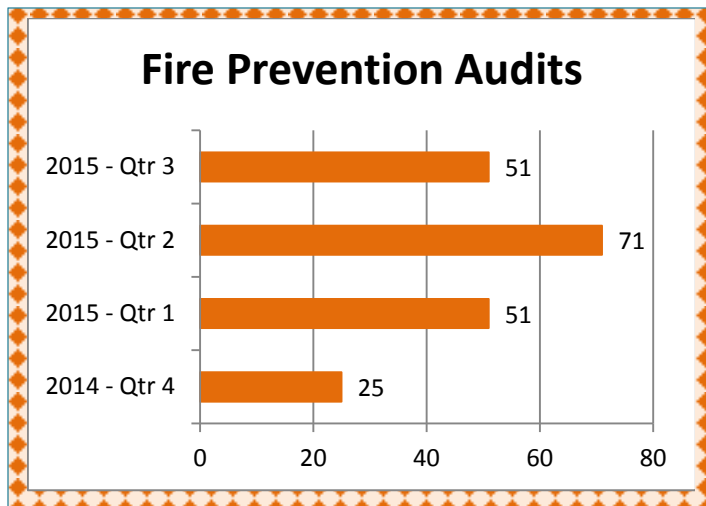
**We're on the Web!**

<http://dsps.wi.gov/Programs/Industry-Services/Industry-Services-Programs/Fire-Prevention/>

Fire Prevention Program Activity by the Numbers

The Fire Prevention Program staff have been hard at work over the past twelve months (October – October) conducting:

- **69** County Code Seminars (December 2014 – March 2015),
- **198** Fire Department Audits,
- **345** Fire Department Visits,
- attending **175** night meetings,
- spending **1,518.6** hours travelling **68,332** miles within the state.

**Fire Prevention Program Contacts**

		Phone
1 - Rick Sommerfeld	Richard.Sommerfeld@Wisconsin.gov	715-944-4114
2 - Mike Fehrenbach	Mike.Fehrenbach@Wisconsin.gov	608-575-0179
3 –Carl Frisque – Lead Worker	Carl.Frisque@Wisconsin.gov	920-366-2469
4 - Sue Birren	Susan.Birren@Wisconsin.gov	414-416-3339
Fire Prevention - Madison Office		
Fire Dues – Audrey Fries	DspsSbFireDues@wisconsin.gov	608-266-9375
NFIRS - Audrey Fries	Audrey.Fries@Wisconsin.gov	608-266-9375
Supervisor – Greg DiMiceli	Gregory.DiMiceli@Wisconsin.gov	608-267-9378

The Industry Services Division Fire Prevention Program provides services related to fire prevention, protection, fire department safety & health, NFIRS, and the administration of the two percent fire dues. Staff also provide assistance to fire chiefs and inspectors in Wisconsin in support of fire prevention inspections.

Share Your Thoughts

Please let us know your thoughts on the newsletter by completing the [Newsletter Feedback survey](#). We look forward to hearing what you like about the newsletter and what we can include in the future to ensure the newsletter tops your very own *Must Read List*.